

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-30 (Canceled)

Claim 31 (New) A public access defibrillator comprising:

a wearable housing;

an electrode attached to the housing and adapted to couple externally to a patient;

a sense circuit adapted to sense a physiological signal of the patient;

a cardiac rhythm detector coupled to said sense circuit and adapted to detect a life threatening cardiac arrhythmia based on said physiological signal;

a microprocessor-based controller adapted to generate automatically a command in the presence of said cardiac arrhythmia based on a non-patient specific program; and

a therapy delivery circuit adapted to deliver electrical therapy pulses to the patient to correct said cardiac arrhythmia in response to said command.

Claim 32 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 32 wherein said cardiac arrhythmia detector includes a comparator adapted to compare said physiological signal to a threshold value, said threshold value being generic to cardiac patients.

Claim 33 (New) . The external defibrillator of claim 31 wherein said sense circuit includes a signal detector adapted to detect a specific cardiac signal based on generic criteria.

Claim 34 (New). A publicly accessible external defibrillator for automatically generating a generic cardiac therapy for a person suffering from a life threatening cardiac condition, said external defibrillator comprising:

- a first electrode adapted to be attached to said patient;

- a detector circuit coupled to said first electrode and adapted to detect a life threatening cardiac condition based on a physiological signal sensed through said electrode, said detector circuit detecting said cardiac condition using non-patient specific criteria;

- a microprocessor-based controller coupled to said detector circuit and adapted to generate a command in the presence of said life threatening condition; and

- a pulse generator adapted to generate therapeutic pulses selected to a pulse generator adapted to generate therapeutic pulses selected to terminate said life threatening cardiac condition in response to said command, said pulse generator operating in at least one of an automated mode in which therapy is applied automatically to the patient and an advisory mode in which an indication is generated to indicate that therapy is available and can be applied.

Claim 35 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 34 further comprising a second electrode attached to said patient and being coupled to said pulse generator to deliver said therapeutic pulses to the patient's heart.

Claim 36 (New)). The external defibrillator of claim 34 wherein said first electrode is coupled to said pulse generator to deliver said therapeutic pulses to the patient's heart.

Claim 37 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 5 further comprising a sensor circuit coupled to said first electrode to sense intrinsic cardiac signals, said sensor circuit being adapted to transmit said intrinsic cardiac signals to said detector circuit.

Claim 38 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 34 further comprising a self-test and diagnostic circuit adapted to run tests on said external defibrillator to determine if said external defibrillator is operational.

Claim 39 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 35 wherein said detector circuit is adapted to detect intrinsic cardiac signals and said controller is adapted to automatically generate said command in synchronism with said intrinsic cardiac signals.

Claim 40 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 34 wherein said detector circuit is adapted to monitor the heart automatically and continuously after said electrode is attached to said patient.

Claim 41 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 34 further comprising an inhibit switch which may be operated by the patient or an attendant, and wherein said controller is adapted to delay said command if said inhibit switch has been activated to protect said patient from undesirable therapeutic pulses.

Claim 42 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 34 further comprising a communication module, said controller being adapted to send a message automatically to

a remote location through said communication module when said life threatening condition is detected, said message indicating one of the occurrence and detection of said condition and the patient's location.

Claim 43 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 34 further comprising a data logging memory for logging information descriptive of said life threatening condition and the therapy delivered to revert said life threatening condition.

Claim 44 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 34 further comprising a display, wherein said controller is adapted to provide on said display at least one of an instruction for the operation of the defibrillator and information indicative of a condition of the patient.

Claim 45 (New). The external defibrillator of claim 34 wherein said controller defines a manual mode of operation, where the operator has the full control in delivering therapy.

Claim 46 (New). A publicly accessible external defibrillator for generating cardiac therapy for a person, said external defibrillator comprising:

- a first electrode adapted to be attached to said patient;

- a detector circuit coupled to said first electrode and adapted to detect a life threatening cardiac condition based on a physiological signal sensed through said electrode;

- a microprocessor-based circuit adapted to analyze said physiological signal and to generate an output indicative of the patient's condition.